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RICHMOND HILL OLD BOYS.

Re-union and Picnic.

A HAPPY TIME TOGETHER.

Richmond Hill opened its arms last Saturday, and, notwithstanding the heavy rain in the forenoon which continued until the noon hour, received hundreds of old friends that had not before visited the place for many years. Decorations in profusion adorned most of the business places and dwellings on Yonge Street, and not a few residences on side streets showed a warm welcome by their flags, bunting and other adornments skilfully arranged. The mottoes suspended across the street included "God Save the King," "For Auld Lang Syne," "Old Boys, the Town is Yours. Use it Well," "Welcome, we like you as much as ever." The Public School building was draped with red, white and blue bunting, and bore the motto "Welcome, we are glad to see you home once more," also the dates 1845-1911. Probably the village never looked as pretty as it did that morning at 10 o'clock, but although the heavy rain which descended afterwards seriously disarranged the decorations, it did not dampen the spirits of the citizens and visitors. The spirit of hospitality was everywhere pronounced, and the home comers were received with open arms. About 2 o'clock a procession was formed under Marshals Trench and Nicholls, and with the Queen's Own and the Village Band marched to the southern boundary of the village to meet the contingent from the City. The procession was again formed and marched north, turning in at the Public School where an impressive ceremony took place, the Toronto Old Boys formally presenting the Town with a flagstaff, which had been erect-

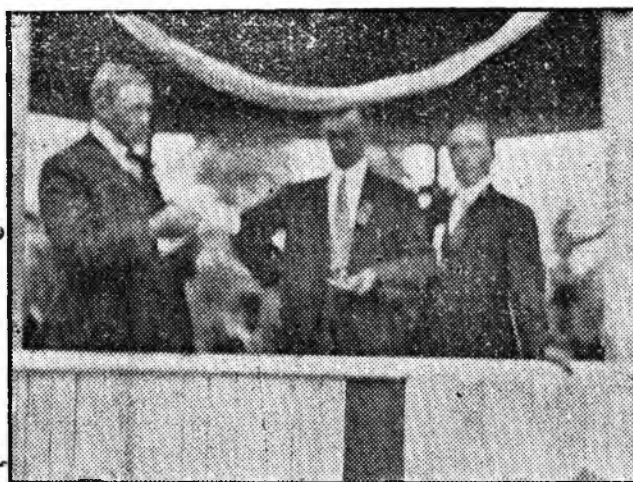
ed in other lands and in the name of the citizens placed the town at the disposal of the guests. The address of Welcome was suitably replied to by Mr. Wm. E. Wiley.

Telegrams were read from Reeve Pugsley, who is in the West; Dr. Coulter, Deputy Postmaster General; Mr. John D. Patterson, and others, regretting their inability to be present. Another pleasant feature of the afternoon programme was the presentation on behalf of the citizens, by Mr. Arthur Boyle, of \$100 in gold to Mr. W. J. Clifford, winner of the King's Prize and the Prince of Wales prize at Bisley. Mr. Clifford thanked the donors for their kind remembrance, saying he had lived 22 years in Richmond Hill before removing to Toronto.

About 2,000 people were on the grounds in the afternoon, and nearly all remained for tea which was served by the ladies in the spacious skating rink, 350 being able to sit down together at each table. Many of the visitors came hundreds of miles. Mr. John McCague, Vancouver, B.C., winning first prize for longest distance traveled, 2,700 miles, and Mrs. M. P. Fraser—formerly Miss Mary Proctor—second prize, having travelled from Grand Forks, 2,600 miles.

The afternoon was pleasantly spent in handshaking and renewing acquaintanceship, and everything passed off without a hitch, although the concert by the Queen's Own Band in the evening was interfered with by the unsatisfactory electric light.

The Old Boys from Toronto and other places won from the home teams in baseball and lacrosse after sharp



PRESENTATION OF PURSE TO MR. W. J. CLIFFORD.

ed in the school grounds, probably the handsomest in the county. Mr. Wm. E. Wiley, President of the Toronto Old Boys' Association, expressed the pleasure of the Boys in returning to the old town. They were anxious to leave some memorial, and thought that a flagstaff at the old school where they had received their early education, would be appropriate. He then called upon Mr. C. H. Ellston, secretary, who presented the flagstaff in an eloquent speech. Councillor J. H. Sanderson, accepted the present with thanks on behalf of the Council, saying that as the staff pointed upwards he hoped the motto of each and every one would be "Upward and Onward." Mr. Frank Wiley, one of the oldest residents, then raised the new flag to the summit of the flagstaff, the Queen's Own played "God Save the King," and the home band contributed "Rule Britannia". The parade was then continued to the north part of the town, and returned to the Park, passing under the evergreen arch which had been erected at the corner of Yonge St. and Lorne Ave.

Reaching the fair grounds Mr. Wm. Pratt, President of the Ratepayers' Association, welcomed the guests in a neat address, saying that though youthful ambition had led many sons of Richmond Hill to seek their future in pastures new, he was glad to know they were pleased to come back, and on behalf of the town he extended them a hearty welcome. He then called upon Mr. P. G. Savage, chairman of the Reception Committee, who read an address of welcome. Mr. Savage referred to the large number of home-comers who had achieved suc-

cesses. The judges awarded the prize to Mr. T. F. McMahon for the best decorated store front, and Mr. J. H. Brydon for the best decorated residence. The following are the prize winners in the various contests in the afternoon:—

Foot Race, girls under 7 years—1st, Ella Jones; 2nd, Hazel Darling; 3rd, Irene Clift.

Girls' Race, under 10 years—Ella Burr, Susie Blanchard, Lillie Jones.

Boys' Race, under 10 years—Chester Curtis, Baden Powell, W. Dickinson.

Boys' Race, under 8 years—Chester Curtis, W. Dickinson, H. Jones.

Married Ladies' Race—Mrs. Albin, Mrs. Darling, Mrs. Jones.

Young Ladies' Race—Ruby Darling, O. Burns, M. Jones.

Married Men's Race—W. Kells, W. Shaw.

Boys' Race—F. Hoppe, L. Doris, A. Savage.

Melagama Tea Race—Edith Clement, Irene Walder, Maud Jones.

Girls' Race, under 15 years—E. Clement, L. Jones, Ruby Darling.

LANDMARKS

If any of the Old Boys felt a little strange when they witnessed the changes and improvements, they certainly knew they were in the right place when in the procession they observed Thompson's Buss with Tom Riley and Dave Benson on the driver's seat.

Mr. David Robinson was probably the oldest visitor at the re-union on Saturday.

Mr. James Shaw of Whitby attend-

ed the Re-union. He left this place 43 years ago.

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